1860
Church
Orders

Church Orders.
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PAPERS
OF
SHAKERS
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Rules & Orders.

For the

Church of Christ's Second Appearing

Established

by the

Ministry & Elders of the Church

Revised & Reestablished

By the Same.

New Lebanon.

N. Y.

May 1860.

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Preface

Believers in Christs Second Appearing who are united in one body, possessing one united & consecrated interest, and, therefore, must, in all things, & under all circumstances, be influenced, led & governed by one spirit, which is the spirit of God, & be subject to one general law which is the law of Christ, in this day of his Second Appearing.

But as this general law comprehends all that is necessary for the moral & religious government of Believers so it is divided into a variety of statutes & rules which will apply to all general cases, & teach us our duty in the various situations & relations to which we may be called.

The first & great command enjoined upon all Believers, is that we love the Lord our God with all our hearts, might, mind & strength; & the second is like unto it, that we love the Brethren & Sisters as ourselves.

Under the influence of the first, we shall always be obedient to our parents, & Elders in the gospel; & under the influence of the second we shall do to all mankind, as we wish them to do unto us.

It may not be improper here to remark, that the orders & laws of Zion, relative to her separation from the spirit of the world within & without, & relative to confession & repentance of sin, & reconciliation between dissenting parties; also to selfdenial, purity & a proper intercourse between the sexes; & the order of the anointing of God, and the transmission of the same to successors &c, are unchangeable.

But those rules & regulations relative to health, economy, & such as are the attendants of local circumstances, in the social connections of society, are subject to such modifications, amendments or repeals, as circumstances require for the union & protection of the various societies & families, throughout Zion.

And, it, is, consequently, the privilege & duty, of the lead, in each society & family, to add to, or diminish the number of such in this book, as their situation & circumstances require for the safety, union & protection of the people under their charge.

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Part 1

Section 1

Orders concerning the Duties of Trustees Family Deacons and Deaconesses And the Duties of other Members thereunto

1 Believers must not run in debt to the world.

2. The order of the gospel requires Trustees before making any heavy purchases, or sales to ask counsel & obtain union of the Ministry & Elders of the church, or family over which they preside.

3 Believer should not require interest of each other on money borrowed to purchase the necessities or comforts of life

4 Members should not purchase articles for themselves without the liberty of the Deacons or Deaconesses; each sex in its own order

5 No new fashions concerning manufactures clothing, or wares of any kind, may be introduced into any society of Believers, without the sanction of the Ministry of the society, &, (superfluous articles should not be purchased, or used by Believers.)

Conditional Orders

1 The family Deacons & Deaconesses are responsible to the Elders in all matters of importance, that come under their cognizance concerning the temporal business of the family.

2 Members employed to do business for the Trustees, at home or abroad, must render a full & explisit account to them of all their expenditures and transactions when such duties are performed.

3 Where the order of the gospel is fully established, members should not apply to the Office Deacons or Deaconesses, for needful articles, or for articles of convenience, nor for money for the purchase of the same, but to the family Deacons and Deaconesses

4 Brethren & Sisters have no liberty to make for themselves or for others, important accommodations or conveniencies, without the union or consent of the Deacons or Deaconesses, each sex in its own order.

5 It is the duty of family Deacons & Deaconesses to dictate the cooks, & the duty of the Elders & Eldresses to see that good order is attended to concerning the same.

Supplement

Importan Counsels

1 Trustees desiring the help of other members to do business for them, or, to perform any of their official duties, at home or abroad, must apply to the Elders for the same.

2 When two or more are out together they should, as far as convenient both eat at one tavern, and sleep in one room, & when walking the street indeavor to keep together as much as convenient.

3 Those who go out on business for the Trustees have no more right to buy, sell bargain or trade for themselves in any way than any other members of the family.

4 As the trustees are called to be examples of godliness, gospel plainness, prudence & good economy in temporal things, they should not purchase for themselves, or receive as a gift or present to be kept by them, or at their place of residence any article, or articles of conveniency that are superfluous, unnecessary, or such as are disowned in the church or family over which they preside as Trustees.

5 Trustees should attend to meeting with the family as far as their duties will possibly admit as they need the union & strength of the body of the family; they should also attend to meals with the family, as far as possible that they may know how to feel for their temporal needs & circumstances with regard to provision

6 When Believers resort to taverns & public places, they should not blend with the wicked, by uniting in unnecessary conversation, jesting & joking, talking on politicks with them, or disputing or ~~arguing~~ enquiring into things which serve to draw the sense from the pure work of God.

7 All Believers who go out among the world should observe, as far as possible, their order of kneeling at home, & should indeav to kneel in prayer each day.

8 A supply of such small tools and articles as sisters need which Brethren make, should be made by order of the Deacons, & delivered to the family Deaconesses: to whom the sisters should apply for the same when desired

9 If sisters desire tools, conveniencies, or articles of manufacture which come in the brethren's line of business, & which it would require much time to make, they should apply to the family Deaconesses.

10 Family Deacons & Deaconesses should have the general oversight of all work done in the family for sale; & the general direction of persons employed at the same, in union with the Trustees.

Section 11

Orders relative to Physicians

1 Brethren should not apply medical aid to sisters who are sick, without the knowledge of sisters who stand in the lot with them; & the same rule applies to sisters, where there are Brethren Physicians.

Counsels

1 The Physicians should at all times, hold themselve accountable to the Elders, with regard to the administration of medicine

2 When an individual is so unwell as to be necessiated to resort to the place of the sick. the Physicians should make the case known to the Elders

3 If any of the Brethren or Sisters need assistance in the medical line, they should apply to the Physicians of their own family, & of their own sex, if there be such; &, if not, to such as are appointed, & give themselves up to their direction, as it respects their medical treatment. All, however, have (a liberty) right to request such medicines as they desire, but are counseled to abide the decision of the Physicians whether it be suitable for them to have it, or not.

4 It is advisable for Believers to avoid employing doctors of the world except in some extreme cases; &, in such cases, the Ministry & Elders should decide whether it be proper, or not.

Part II

Section 1

Orders concerning the confession of Sin.

And

Opening the Mind

1 No Believer can be justified in keeping any sin covered, under any pretence whatever; but all are

required

required to make confession thereof, to those who are appointed in the order of God to hear them.

2 If any member should know of any sin or actual transgression of the law of Christ in any one of the family or society, & have reason to believe the same is not known, or has not been confessed in the order, the member to whom the matter is known is bound to reveal it to the Elders so that sin may be put away, otherwise they participate in the guilt & condemnation thereof.

3 All Believers who ignorantly, carelessly or willfully break the orders of the gospel are required to confess the same in the line of order, & this should be done before assembling to worship God.

4 All trials must be opened to those set in order to hear them; &, to no other person.

5 If any member not appointed to hear openings, attentively hears disorderly persons disclose their trials, or their disaffected feelings concerning Ministry, Elders, Deacons, Brethren or sisters, it is solemnly enjoined on such, to make confession of the matter to their Elders as a transgression of the order of God in hearing such openings

6 No member of the family who may be admonished or reproved by the Elders for any fault whatever, is allowed to make any inquiry, or take any pains to find out by whom the matter was opened to the Elders.

7 Members should not go to the Ministry to open their minds without the knowledge of their Elders, unless the Ministry call upon them for that purpose, in which case it is their duty to be free. And if members manifest to their Elders a desire to see the Ministry, the Elders should make it known to the Ministry.

8 If any member should discover any violation of the law of Christ, or any thing contrary to the known precepts of the gospel, in any person entrusted in any lot of care, either spiritual or temporal, however high or important their lot & calling may be, the person making the discovery is bound to make it known to the Ministry, or some one appointed to hear openings.

9 If any person should be overcome with anger, so as to lay any brother or sister in the lie or speak or act contry to the gospel of Christ, or, by any means try to irritate, or wound the feelings of a brother or sister they are not justified until restored by confession.

10 No member is allowed to present him= or her self to worship God, when under the condem= =nation of sin unconfessed. But all are required to present themselves to worship with clean hands, pure hearts, & a justified conscience.

11 If brethren have aught to open con= cerning any sister, they must open it to their Elder Brethren, & if sisters have aught to open concerning any brother, they must open it to their Elder Sisters.

Section 11

Orders concerning the Worship of God Attending Meeting &c

1 All are required to attend meetings at the appointed time & no one may be absent from meetings without obtaining permission of the Elders for the same.

2 If any member is absent from meeting without the Elder's Knowledge, & union, such an one should inform the Elders of the cause of absence the first opportunity after meeting

Supplement

Counsels &c

1 All members while sitting in retiring time should sit erect & in straight ranks.

2 All should attend to the reading of the hymn or anthem that is to be sung in meeting, which should always be read in retiring time, & none should have any conversation upon any thing, except it be very needful, neither should they sleep, or idly lounge away the time, or leave the room except it be very necessary

3 All should go into meeting in the fear of God, walking softly, or upon their toes, except unable to do so, and no one should have any talking laughing or hanging or hanging on the railing while passing to, or from meeting.

4 When Brethren and Sisters place themselves in a body in meeting for the worship of of God, the ranks should be straight, not only to the right and left but also forward & back, and forward ranks should always be as long as any of the rest, and, by no means should there be vacancies in the ranks; it has a tendency to excite disunion

5 Brethren & Sisters should not allow them=selves to be gaping & yawning in meeting.

6 When any person is kneeling in devoted prayer, whether in meeting or elsewhere, all who are present should attend, & not be otherwise engaged.

7 Brethren & Sisters should repair to their rooms when the signal is given for that purpose, and retire in silence the appointed time, & labor for a sense of the gospel before attending meetings.

Section III

Orders concerning the Sabbath

No books except the Bible & believers pub=
1 lications may be red on the Sabbath, except by per=mission of the Elders. And Newspapers, Periodicals, Advertisements, Almanacs, Pamphlets, Literary, Scientific, Miscellaneous, Unreligious or Worldly books of any kind should not be read on the Sabbath.

2 No kind of fermented liquors should be used on the sabbath, except medicine administered by the Physicians

3 There should be no riding out on the Sabbath unless duty requires.

4 Clothes for the wash should not be carried to the wash house on the Sabbath after sunrise until after supper, at which time the sisters may prepare them for washing.

5 No one should walk out on the Sabbath except on duty.

6 Cutting of the hair, pairing of the nails, blacking ~~of shoes~~ or greasing of shoes or boots, & such like things should not be done on the Sabbath.

Supplement

Conditional Orders

1 There should be no baking of bread, cakes, or pies, no frying of cakes, & no cooking of meat in any way on the Sabbath. Fruits & vegetables should not be prepared for cooking on the Sabbath, neither should they be gathered unless in case of great necessity.

2 Shaving the beard should not be done on the Sabbath unless in case of great necessity when it is quite inconvenient to avoid it.

3 Where there is dwelling house room provided shops should not be frequented or occupied as a residence on the sabbath, but, when duty renders it necessary to visit them, the tarry should be short as convenient

4 Shop windows fronting the street should not be left open on the sabbath, except on some needful occasion.

Counsels

1 No labor should be performed on the Sabbath that can consistently be avoided, but all should keep the day holy & sacred unto the Lord.

2 Bathing or showering if done on the Sabbath, should be early in the morning except in case of sickness

3 Loud or boisterous talking or laughing. also conversation on politics, war or worldly subjects in general, also telling worldly stories should be avoided on the Sabbath.

Section 4

Orders concerning Christmas & Days appointed by Government to be Kept

1 In conformity to the general practice of Christendom (so called) Believers should keep Christmas, &, on this day should examine themselves, in regard to their union with each other; &, if hard feelings or grudges are found, they should this day be put away and reconciliation should be made, and union gained between such as have been dissensions, that the spirit of Christ may abide in every soul.

2 Christmas should be kept sacredly like unto the sabbath until sunset

3 Days appointed by the goverment for fasting and prayer and for thanksgiving are also required to be kept and regarded, and believers should attend one meeting and devote the remainder of the day in cleaning and putting things and apartments in order

Orders Concerning Intercourse
Between the sexes

1 The gospel strictly forbids all private union between the sexes, in any way place, case, or under any circumstance whatever

2 One Brother and Sister must not be together alone at any time longer than to do a short and necessary duty or errand; and must not have private talk together atall which they desire to have unknown to their Elders, neither should Bretheren and Sisters touch eachother unnecessarily.

3 Brethren and Sisters must not make presents to eachother in a private manner

4 Brethren and Sisters should not pass each other on the stairs

5 Brethren and Sisters should not shake hands together

6 Sisters must neither mend nor set buttons on Brethren clothes while they havethemon

7 It is not allowable for Bretren and Sisters to swap or give eachother any tools, books or clothing of any kind, without the knowledge and union of those who have charge of providing such things.

8 When Brethren go to Sister's rooms or Sisters to Brethren's rooms they should always rap at the door and wait to be bidden in.

9 Brethren or Sisters should not dress in garments belonging to the opposite sex nor allow themselves to try on such garments

Conditional Orders

1 Brethren and Sisters should not work together much length of time, except on special occasions and then in union with the Elders

2 Brethren and Sisters should not write for eachother nor to eachother without liberty from the Elders

3 If Brethren or Sisters need instruction in reading writing or music, or any other branches of literature or science they must receive it from those of their own sex or by such persons as the Elders may appoint

4 Brethren and Sisters should not go into eachother's apartments after evening meeting at night except on some very needful occasion.

5 The Brethren should all leave their rooms while the Sisters are doing the necessary chores therein, unless prevented by sickness, or infirmity

6 When Sisters walk out into the fields to the barns or Brethren's shops, there should be at least two in company; exceptions should be by liberty of the Elde

Counsels

(Brethren should avoid shaking hands with women of the world, as far as consistent and sisters, should in likemanner avoid shaking hands with men of the world

2 When Brethren go to Brethren's rooms, or sisters to sister's rooms it is pretty to ask leave to enter before entering rooms where they do not live.

3 Brethren or Sisters should avoid standing or sitting on the outside steps platforms, or in halls to hold lengthy conversation, either Brethren with Brethren or sisters with Sisters or of Brethren and Sisters together

4 In times of meetings for worship, and in union or singing meetings, there should be at least five feet distance between the ranks of the Brethren and sisters, and no one should stand or sit in a lounging or awkward poisture

5 All should attend union meetings at the appointted times unless special duty requires them to be absent.

6 (When consistent to avoid it Brethren's and Sister's shops should not be under one and the same roof

7 It is not reecommendable for Brethren to go to Sisters shops or sisters to brethren's shops for the purpose of partaking of melons fruits or nuts &c

8 Brethren and sisters should avoid hanging their garments together.

Orders Concerning the Language Of Believers

All filthy stories and all conversation which tends to excite lustful sensations are directly contrary to the purity of the gospel and utterly forbidden; and whoever offends in this matter must make confession before meeting or stand behind all in the ranks when assembled for worship.

All who hear or listen to such conversation are required to open it before meeting.

2 All telling of falsehoods evil speaking one of another backbiting or tatling are utterly forbidden by the gospel.

3 No one should carry news from one to another, that will stir up and make mischief; or bring up faults and failings, that have been confessed and put away.

4 (Believers should not compare their Brethren and Sisters to filthy vagabonds of the world.

5 (Worldly titles should not be applied by Believers to their brethren and Sisters

6 When Brethern and Sisters seek a favor one of another, they should always ask in a becoming manner, as "Will you be so kind" &c. And, when kindness is received should return thanks respecfully, as "I kindly thank you".

7 When Believers hold conversation with those who have turned from the way of God, they should correctly report the same to their Elders.

8 No Believer should rehearse th mistakes or faults of any one, in the body or out, to those not having knowlede of the same, so as to hand them down from one generation to another.

Counsels.

Believers should not call nicknames, use by words, or worldly expressions; neither should they address eachother with worldly titles

2 (Believers should avoid repeating the cursing and swearing of the world, when relating the stories of such language, or circumstances with which it was connected)

3 It is ungodly for Brethren and sisters to threaten of rejecting their privilege in the way of God, and turning back to the world.

Orders Concerning The Furniture Of retiring Rooms.

No maps, charts, and no pictures nor paintings should ever be hung up in retiring rooms; and no pictures paintsings or likenesses as Daguerrotypes &c set in frames, or otherwise, should ever be kept by Believers. Modest advertisements may be put up in the Trustees office when necessary.

2 If any one mars breaks or destroys any article of furniture in the retiring rooms where they live it is the duty of such to acknowledge the same to the Deacons or Deaconesses as the cause may be; and if possible, to repair the injury

Conditional Orders

Newspapers should not be read in retiring rooms, except by special liberty of those set in order to give the same.

Counsels

The furniture of dwelling rooms among Believers should be plain in style, and unembellished by stamps, flowers paintings or gildings of any kind. And lookingsglasses ought not to be purchased by Believers exceeding about 12 by 20 inches

Orders Concerning Books Pamphlets And Writing In general

1 Very superfluously marbled or gilt books or papers should not be used among Believers.

2 Bretheren and Sisters are not alowed to purchase or borrow books of the world or other families of Believers without the permission of the Elders of the falily with whom they live.

3 None should read books when out among the world that are not allowed of among Believers. If the world should offer any believer a book that would not be allowed of tho they might not have had liberty to get such a book, it would be better to get such a book than to give offence but it should be shown to the Elders. before it is read or circulated.

4 No books Pamplets or Almanacks of any kind are allowed to be brought into the family without the knowlege and approbation of the Elders.

5 All letters received by any member, not set in order to transact business, with the world or with other Believers, Should invariably be shown to the Elders and this should be done before being shown or read, to, or by any other person

6 If any member should write a letter to send abroad it should be shown to the Elders before it is sealed or sent away. But the office Deacons are allowed to receive letters on temporal business only, without showing them to the Elders.

But all communications written or received by them or any other person, not connected with business transactions, in the line of their official duties, should be shown to the Elders.

7 No Hymns, Anthems or songs of any kind, or any other writings, except as before shown may be carried out or brought into family without the knowledge and approbation of the Elders thereof.

Conditional Orders

Newspapers should be subscribed for by those at the office as a general rule, and none should come into the family except by the knowledge of the Elders.

Counsels

One or two family journals should be kept by each family, in which all important occurrences, or business transactions of the family aside from the office, should be registered

Orders Concerning Going Abroad And Intercourse With The World

When Believers need to go abroad, out of the line of their ordinary business they should obtain the union of their Elders. And persons employed to do business should inform the Elders, if to be absent over night.

2 When members of the family need spending money they should apply to the family Deacons, or those set in order for keeping the same, and to them a correct account of all expenses should be made when the money is returned.

3 One Brother and one Sister, must not walk out or ride out together, without the third person; nor take with them for company a child under ten years of age, for their only companion. Any exceptions to this rule, should be by special liberty of the Elders.

4 It is not allowable for Believers to go into Museums, Theatres, or to attend caravans or shows, to gratify curiosity.

5 In families gathered into order, no members should but those appointed for that purpose should keep money.

6 When Brethren and Sisters go from home, for a ride, for for a visit, or, if absent over night on business, they should give the Elders an account of their proceedings and circumstances attending their journey, when they return home.

Orders Concerning The Literary Education And Schooling Of Children

No member but those appointed by the Lead may study Physic, Pharmacy Anatomy, Surgery, Law &c &c And Phrenology Mythology Mesmerism, and such sciences as are foreign from Believers duty should not be studied atall by Believers.

2 Spelling Reading writing. Linear drawing English Grammar Composition Arithmetic Mensuration. The science of agriculture Agricultural Chemistry. Physiology A portion of History & Geography Music, Moral Science, Good Manners, and true religion are Sufficient. as general school studies for children among Believers.

Orders Concerning The Dead

When the spirit is departing and a person is breathing the last, all present should kneel in prayr

It is sufficient to dress a male corps in a shirt and Shroud, a handkerchief or cravat, and muffler if necessary. And for a female add thereto a cap and collar.

Miscellaneous Orders &c

All wrestling scuffling beating, Striking, or fighting, in any sense of the word, is utterly forbidden by the gospel.

2 No persons may have private communications, written Spoken, or in action, intentionally secreted from their Elders.

3 No kind of ardent spirits may be drank by Believers except by orders of the Physicians.

4 It is an established order for Believers to kneel in prayer, on retiring to rest at night. & on rising in the morning

5 It is an established order for Believers, to kneel, before and after eating, when at home. & among themselves, and when among the world as far as consistent; and when kneeling in prayer and thanksgiving all should close their eyes, and devote their souls to God.

6 No unnecessary figuring or lettering, and no Superfluity should be used in making tools or garments

7 No writing with red ink. Should be done by way of embellishment.

8 No gildings may be put upon books manufactured by Believers; and no names of individuals may be lettered in gold leaf upon the outside covers of Books of any kind

9 Boys under fifteen years of age, should not make any use of guns; and the longer they let guns alone, the better as hunting is not reccommendable.

10 Fancy articles of any kind, or articles that are superfluously finished, trimed, or ornamentted, are not suitable for Believers, and should not be purchased or used.

Conditional Orders

All should rise in the morning at the signal given for that purpose, unless prevented by sickness, or infirmity

2 Brethren should leave their rooms within fifteen minutes after the signal time of rising in the morning, unless prevented by sickness or infirmity

3 All who sleep in one and the same room should kneel, and retire together as far as consistent; but if any desire to sit up to work, or for other purposes, they should get liberty of the Elders and inform those with whom they lodge.

4 There should be no talking, after retiring to rest at night except on some important occasion

5 Those appointed caretakers of dwelling rooms, are responsible that good order is maintained therein, and that disorder is reported to the Elders.

6 Visiting between the world and believers, should be done at the office, in families where there is one; except otherwise directed by the Elders.

7 Brethren and Sisters should not give away any of their garments or tools, without the union of the Deacons or Deaconesses Taylors or Tayloresses who have charge of providing such things.

Counsels

Where public stores are kept the place of storage should be secured by locks and keys.

2 Cider if kept atall should be secured by lock, and kept under the charge of some suitable person.

3 When Brethren or Sisters wish to make presents to their friends among Believers, or elsewhere they should obtain liberty of their Elders & those first in temporal care to do so.

Concerning Temporal Economy.

Section. 1.

Of Prudence Neatness &c

No kind of liquid matter should be thrown out of the windows of painted buildings, and no apple pearings nor the refuse of any kind of fruit should be thrown out of the windows of the dwelling house or shops, into the door yards or street.

2 Brethren or Sisters should not throw away their old Shoes, boots, socks or garments; but they should be shown to those who have the charge of such things, to be disposed of as they deem proper

3 Flowers, fruit trees or shrubery should not be set around or adjacent to dwelling houses or shops which occupy a front position.

Counsels &c

1 No kind of filthy rubbish may be left to remain around the dwellings, shops, nor in the door yard or streets, in front of the dwelling houses or shops.

2 All the gates should be closed on saturday nights in the summer, and work rooms should be swept; the work and tools should be put in order, and safely secured from thieves and fire.

3. When a pane of glass gets broken in a front window, it must be mended before the sabbath.

Section 11

Orders To Prevent Loss By Fire

No person should carry fire about the dooryards or among the buildings, unless safely secured in a lantern, firebox or other safe vessel

2 No one may enter a closet, clothes room, or other by place, not frequented, with an open light

3 Lighted lamps or candles must not be carried to the barns or other out buildings unless enclosed in a lantern and no lanterns are allowed to be carried into hay mows, nor to be opened in the barns, nor in any place where sparks would be liable to set any thing on fire.

4 No lighted lamps or candles may be held over chests, drawers, shaving baskets, and such like places.

5 No one may go to chests of clothing, drawers, shaving baskets, woodboxes, closets, or back and by places, while smoking neither may they emty their pipes in spitboxes, nor go to smoke in uninhabited rooms.

6 It is not allowable to go out of doors any where among the buildings with lighted pipes; and it is better not to smoke at all.

7 It is not allowable to boil oil or varnish in our buildings any where.

8 No ashes should be emtied into their place of deposit after 1 O clock in the after-noon; neither may ashes ever be taken up in a wooden vessel, & should not be set or hung on woodboxes or near shaving baskets with ashes in them.

9. The snuff of a burning lamp or candle should never be dropped into spitboxes where there is sawdust or any combustible matter.

10. Spitboxes should not be left under the stove-hearth at any time

11 When a room is left for the night, or much length of time the stove door should be shut, if there is fire in it and the place secured from fire.

Counsels

Chimneys should be burned out once a year, and at a time when the roofs are sufficiently wet to prevent taking fire

Section III

Orders Concerning Beasts

No Believer is allowed to play with cats and dogs, it is strictly forbidden. neither should they mak roommates of them, nor make unnecessary freedom with any of the beasts of the field.

2. No dogs may be kept in any family that is gathered into order

3. No beasts belonging to the people of God may be left to suffer with hunger, thirst or cold, in consequence of neglect on the part of those who have the care of such beasts, but all should be kept in their proper places, and be properly attended to need.

4 No beasts, or any living thing may be wantonly pained, injured or tortured, and no living being should be corrected or chastened in a passion

Counsels.

Horses and cattle must not feed or run together in one pasture

2 Beasts should not be called by the given or christen name of persons.

Section. 4.

Concerning The Order Of The Natural Creation

Different species of trees or plants may not be engrafted or budded upon eachother except pears, which may be engrafted upon the quince.

2 The different species of animals should also be kept distinct each in its own order.

3 No fowls may be set on the eggs of fowls of different kinds

Counsels

Believers should not spend their time in cultivating fruits and plants not adapted to the climate in which they live.

Section 5

Orders Concerning Building

Painting &c

Beadings mouldings and cornishings which are merely for fancy may not be made by Believers.

2 Odd, or Fanciful styles of architecture, may not be used among Believers; neither should any deviate widely from the common styles of building, without the union of the Ministry and Elders.

Counsels

It is advisable to paint meeting houses white without and of a blueish shade within for the sake of uniformity. Dwellings should also be as near uniform in color as consistent and shops in like manner, should be uniform in color as far as practible; and a little darker than dwellings.

2 For uniformity it is advised for dwelling house floors, if stained atall, to be of a reddish yellow.

3 Back buildings, as barns, woodhouses &c if painted atall should be of a darker hue than dwellings, or shops; as Red Brown, Umber, Lead color, Chocolate or some such modest color; But, when such buildings front the street or command a sightly aspect they should be painted, like shops.

4 It is imprudent and unadvisable, to paint such articles as come to ready wear, so as to wear out before they rust out;

Section 6

Miscellaneous Counsels

(Brethren and Sisters should avoid thronging the office to visit Believers late in the evening, or as they are about to return home

2. Members should not tell the gifts, or peculiar regulations of the family in which they live, to other families.

3. Brethren and Sisters should not leave their companions in employ to be gone over half an hour, without giving them information where they are going

4 Lengthy conversations should not be held in the street if consistent to avoid it

5 It is unsafe, and therefore improper, to redrill a hole in a rock when it is charged for blasting.

6 It is advisable for Believers to abstain from all kinds of fermented liquors as a beverage.

7. Buildings which get out of repair should be repaired soon or taken away.

8. Doors and and gates should not be left swinging, but kept either shut, or fastened open.)

9. Curtains should not be left in such a manner as to be blown out at the windows.

10 It is unsafe to leave any kind of garments or yarn, or cloth, spread or hung out over night, unless it is watched.

11 It is uncleanly for Brethren and Sisters to spit out at the windows, on the floors, walks, cellar bottoms or sinks.

12. It is unsafe to shoot with guns near the barns or other buildings, unless the wadding be of leather shavings, or something not liable to take fire.

13. It is unadvisable to use locks and keys in the dwelling house, except where public stores are to be kept; and no false locks should be used in the dwelling house, or any private possession.

14. It is uncleanly to allow cattle or sheep to feed in the door yards, and they should not be driven carelessly through them; and it is a good rule to mow door yards twice a year.

15 It is improper to cut up the door yards into little crosspaths, and byroads, but, when consistent, all should keep on the walks.

16 When Brethren or sisters are about the farm, and pass through bars or gates, they should always leave them closed, unless they find them evidently left open on purpose. And when Brethren are about the farm and find gates open, bars down, or fences broken down, they should put them in order, if consistent, and if not, inform those set in order to take care of them, on their return home.

17 All implements of labor, carts waggons, sleighs, sleds, &c &c, should be put in their proper places on saturday night, and as far as consistent, every night and all of these things should be done in season to retire at the time appointed, if possible.

18 No kind of beasts birds &c &c should be kept for mere curiosity, or for the sake of fancy or show.

19 When believers enter the dwelling house they should walk softly, and in the fear of God.

20. Slaming doors or gates should not be practised by Believers.

21. Believers should avoid lounging in the windows, or leaning on the window stools as if they were asleep, or gazing out at passers by, and particularly on the Sabbath.

22 If a Brother or Sister be missing at the dining table, the place should be immediately filled.

23. No one should allow himself to pass carlessly over useful things as a nail, pin &c thinking it to small to pick up and save; for our Heavenly Father may considder such to small to bestow a blessing upon.

24 When Brethren or Sisters are assembled to sing, or support union, no one should read aloud without the with out the request or consent of the company, lest some greater gift should be obstructed.

25 When any one is out of health, such should not defer applying to the Physicians until saturday night or sabbath day, for the purpose of saving time for temporal employment.

26 Brethren should not present themselves to support union with the Sisters, when they aught one against another, and Sisters should not present themselves to support union with the Brethren, when they have aught one against another.

27 Believers should not keep any beasts that needs an extravagant portion of whipping or beating; but such had better be sold to the children of this world, or killed.

29. Rocking chairs should not be used in singing meeting.

30 All should avoid unnecessarily frequenting the rooms wherein they do not live except on duty.

31 Believers should not keep pots of flowers in or around dwelling houses or shops.

Conclusion

Whoever knowingly or willfully breaks the order of the Gospel, should feel that they have sinned in that thing, and should feel themselves solemnly obligated to confess it, and put it away in the line of order.

The Elders of every family throughout Zion, should keep a record of the orders contained in this book, or such a portion of them as the Ministry deem suitable for, and adapted to the family over which they are called to preside; and the same should be frequently read or spoken to the family. Perhaps the most judicious way to make a suitable and lasting impression upon the minds of the people, would be to read one section only at one meeting, thus confining the attention to one subject.

It is very important that every Believer should get an understanding of the order which they are called to keep.